A XAS STUDY OF Ru DOPED N=1,2 RUDDLESDEN POPPER MANGANITES AND Ca_{2.5}Sr_{0.5}GaMn₂O₈.

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We report on the results of XAS studies at the Mn:L_{2.3}, Ru:K and O:K edges of novel manganites, Sr₂Mn_{0.5}Ru_{0.5}O₄, Sr₃MnRuO₇ and Ca_{2.5}Sr_{0.5}GaMn₂O₈. Measurements were carried out on polycrystalline powder samples at room temperature. From the analysis, values of the mean Mn valence amounting to 3.42(5) for bilayer Sr_3MnRuO_7 and 3.08(5) for single layer ${\rm Sr_2Mn_{0.5}Ru_{0.5}O_4}$ are obtained. The corresponding Ru valences are 4.58(5) and 4.92(5), respectively. This indicates that Ru doping gives rise to a decrease of Mn valence, whereas Ru valence increases, compared to Mn⁴⁺ and Ru⁴⁺ in undoped compounds. Measurements on $Ca_{2.5}Sr_{0.5}GaMn_2O_8$ show the Mn mean valence of 3.50(5), which agrees with stoichiometry and, consequently, no deviation from nominal oxygen stoichiometry is concluded. A relation of the results to bulk magnetic properties of the compounds is discussed.

- 13.4 cm -

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 $9.7~\mathrm{cm}$